

REMARKS

A statement that the present application is the National Stage of International Application No. PCT/EP2003/007875 has been added immediately after the TITLE.

Claim 2 has been amended to replace the phrase "comprising additionally" with the phrase "further comprising" to better conform to U.S. practice. This amendment does not change the scope of the claim in any way.

Claims 3-6 and 10 have been amended to remove multiple dependencies to conform with U.S. practice and to minimize filing fees.

Claims 6, 8, and 9 have been amended to recite a "method of making a pet food...." Support for these amendments is found in the specification at, for example, page 3, line 10 - page 7, line 28; in Examples 1-6; and in original claims 6 and 8, respectively. See *In re Gardner*, 177 USPQ 396, 397 (CCPA 1973) and MPEP §§ 608.01(o) and (l) (8th ed. Rev. 2, May 2004, pp. 600-73 and 600-81 to 600-82).

Claim 7 has been canceled without prejudice.

Claims 10 and 11 have been amended to recite a "method of preventing or treating...." Support for these amendments is found in the specification at, for example, page 7, line 29 - page 10, line 25 and in original claims 10 and 11, respectively. See *id.*

Claims 12 and 13 have been added. Support for these claims is found in the specification at, for example, page 3, line 10 - page 7, line 28; in Examples 1-6; and in original claims 3, 4, and 6. See *id.*

Claims 14-16 have been added. Support for these amendments is found in the specification at, for example, page 7, line 29 - page 10, line 25 and in original claim 10. See *id.*

It is submitted that no new matter has been introduced by the foregoing amendments. Approval and entry of the amendments is respectfully solicited.

Favorable action on the merits including entry of the Preliminary Amendment prior to examination on the merits and allowance of all the claims, respectfully, is requested. If the Examiner has any questions regarding this paper, please contact the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

By:


Stephen J. Brown
Registration No. 43,519
BRYAN CAVE LLP
1290 Avenue of the Americas
33rd Floor
New York, NY 10104
Phone: (212) 541-2000
Fax: (212) 541-4630